Government has set up a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Shri Jagdish Capoor, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India to study the functioning of co-operative banks in the whole country and to suggest measures for their revival/restructuring. The Task Force has since completed its deliberations and its report is in advance stage of finalisation.

(c) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that three District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) in the State of Gujarat had incurred losses during the year 1998-99 as indicated below:

Name of DCCB	Amount of Loss (Rs. Lakh)
Baroda	371.56
Panchmahal	81.00
Kutch	1.21
TOTAL:	453.77

The details of the accumulated losses of these banks as on 31.3.1999 are indicated below:

(Rs. Lakhs)

Sr. No.	Name of DCCB	Accumulated Losses
1.	Baroda	8317.09
2.	Kutch	476.10
3.	Panchmahal	2001.46

(d) Finance Minister has, in his Union Budget Speech for 2000-2001, proposed to establish a fund in NABARD for promoting a more vibrant rural cooperative credit system. The details of the same are to be worked out in the light of the recommendaitons made in the Report of the Task Force, which is in an advance stage of finalisation.

Misleading of RBI by ICICI

*427. SHRIVAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item which appeared in the "Economic Times" on the 7th March, 2000 under the caption "RBI slams ICICI for mis-stating NPA profits"; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and what action has been taken against ICICI for misleading the RBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Newsitem referred to in part (a) of the Question appeared in the daily, the Economic Times of 7th March, 2000 under the caption, RBI finds ICICI windowdressed NPAs to jack up net by Rs. 403 crore.

RBI conducts inspection of financial institutions under Section 45 N of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. Findings of the inspection are discussed with the Cheif Executive of the financial institution concerned. The inspection report is also placed before the Board of Directors of the institution and action taken report is sent by the financial institution to RBI. RBI follows up with the financial institution for corrective action, till the deficiencies have been rectified to the satisfaction of RBI.

RBI has reported that the said Newsitem refers to a supervisory letter from RBI to ICICI, based upon a financial inspection report. Findings of the financial inspection report were discussed with ICICI and the compliance of ICICI in respect of deficiencies observed in the inspection report has been subsequently examined by the RBI and suitable instructions thereon issued to ICICI.

Irregularities in the cellular phone service of MTNL

†*428. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Members of Parliament have made complaints regarding the irregularities in the cellular phone services to be launched by the MTNL;

(b) if so, whether Government have ordered any enquiry into the said matter on the basis of MPs complaints; if so, the present status of the said enquiry and by when the enquiry report will be received; and

(c) whether attempts are being made at higher level to suppress the said matter and if not, at what level the enquiry will be initiated by Government against the persons found guilty?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.